

Dear Editor:

As the weather warms up, I want to encourage everyone in (CITY) to do two simple things this year that could save a child's life.

First, always lock your vehicle doors and put the keys out of reach of children. An unlocked car is a danger to children who may see it as a place to play. Toddlers can easily be trapped inside a hot car, and they quickly succumb to soaring temperatures that can kill in minutes.

Second, never leave a child unattended in a vehicle—even for a few minutes or with the air conditioner on. The temperature in a car can rise to dangerous levels quickly, so play it safe, and take your child with you.

Last year, at least 33 children in the United States lost their lives after being left in unattended motor vehicles—with an unknown number more seriously injured.

The lesson here is simple, but it can make a huge difference: Never let a child play in or near an unattended vehicle; and never, ever, leave a child alone in a vehicle, no matter how brief you think your absence is going to be. If you see a child alone in a car, please call 911—or get someone's attention fast.

Kids in hot cars are a deadly combination. Don't let a tragedy happen to you. Visit www.safercar.gov/heatstroke for more information.

Sincerely,
[NAME]
[HOMETOWN]